

Thune.024

~~Amendment to H.R. 2646, As Reported~~

~~Offered By Mr. Thune of South Dakota~~

(page and line numbers refer to the Amendment in the
Nature of a Substitute (Combes.011))

AMENDMENT NO. _____: At the end, add the following (and make such technical and conforming changes as may be appropriate):

1 **SEC. 932. TASK FORCE ON AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION.**

2 (a) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agri-
4 culture shall establish an Task Force on Agricultural
5 Competition (in this section referred to as the “Task
6 Force”) and shall appoint as members of the Task Force
7 such employees of the Department of Agriculture as the
8 Secretary considers to be appropriate. The Secretary shall
9 designate 1 member of the Task Force to serve as chair-
10 person of the Task Force.

11 (b) HEARINGS.—The Task Force shall conduct hear-
12 ings to review the lessening of competition among pur-
13 chasers of livestock, poultry, and unprocessed agricultural
14 commodities in the United States and shall include in such
15 hearings review of the following matters:

16 (1) The enforcement of particular Federal laws
17 relating to competition.

1 (2) The concentration and vertical integration
2 of the business operations of such purchasers.

3 (3) Discrimination and transparency in prices
4 paid by such purchasers to producers of livestock,
5 poultry, and unprocessed agricultural commodities in
6 the United States.

7 (4) The economic protection and bargaining
8 rights of producers who raise livestock and poultry
9 under contracts.

10 (5) Marketing innovations and alternatives
11 available to producers of livestock, poultry, and un-
12 processed agricultural commodities in the United
13 States.

14 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the last
15 member of the Task Force is appointed, the Task Force
16 shall submit, to the Committee on Agriculture of the
17 House of Representatives and the Committee on Agri-
18 culture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, a report
19 containing the findings and recommendations of the Task
20 Force for appropriate administrative and legislative ac-
21 tion.